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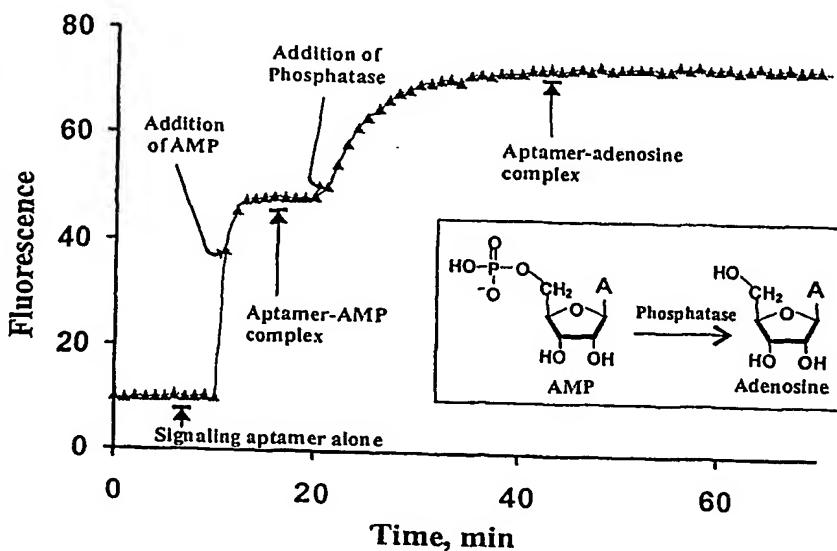
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR MONITORING REACTIONS IN REAL TIME



(57) Abstract: Methods for monitoring chemical reactions in real time are provided. The methods involve the use of a signaling aptamer that has a different affinity for the substrate and the product of the chemical reaction. The conversion from substrate to product is detected as a change in signal, in particular a change in fluorescent signal. The methods of the present invention are also useful to measure enzyme activity and to screen for enzyme inhibitors.